Applicant: Sakae Tsuda et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 19758-0002US1 / OSP-18668

Serial No.: 10/549,874 Filed: March 20, 2006

Page : 2 of 9

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- (Original) A method for inhibiting freeze concentration of a substance other than water molecules contained in a hydrous material during freezing of the hydrous material, the hydrous material containing water molecules and the substance other than water molecules, wherein the method comprises a step of adding an antifreeze protein to the hydrous material.
- 2. (Original) The method for inhibiting the freeze concentration of a substance other than water molecules contained in a hydrous material according to claim 1, wherein the hydrous material has a pH ranging from 2.0 to 11.0 in the step of adding an antifreeze protein to the hydrous material.
- 3. (Original) The method for inhibiting the freeze concentration of a substance other than water molecules contained in a hydrous material according to claim 1, wherein the hydrous material has a temperature ranging from 0°C to 70°C in the step of adding an antifreeze protein to the hydrous material.

4-6. (Cancelled).

(Currently Amended) A method for producing a frozen product or freeze-dried product by freezing or freeze-drying a hydrous material containing water molecules and a component Applicant : Sakae Tsuda et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 19758-0002US1 / OSP-18668

Serial No.: 10/549,874 Filed : March 20, 2006 Page : 3 of 9

other than water molecules, wherein the component other than water molecules is homogeneously dispersed in the frozen product or freeze-dried product, the method emprising a step of adding an antifreeze protein to the hydrous material using the method as recited in Claim 1.

8. (Original) The method for producing a frozen product or freeze-dried product according to claim 7, wherein the hydrous material has a pH ranging from 2.0 to 11.0 in the step of adding an antifreeze protein to the hydrous material.

9. (Original) The method for producing a frozen product or freeze-dried product according to claim 7, wherein the hydrous material has a temperature ranging from 0°C to 70°C in the step of adding an antifreeze protein to the hydrous material.